20/578602 IAP20Rec'd PCTAPTO 08 MAY 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Steffen Hardt

International Application No.:

PCT/EP2004/012650

International Filing Date:

09 November 2004

For:

METHOD FOR SEPARATING CHEMICAL

SUBSTANCES AND/OR PARTICLES, DEVICE AND

USE THEREOF

Date:

May 8, 2006

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This invention relates to electric fields applied parallel to and/or vertical to the interfaces on adjacent microfluid lamellae made of nonmiscible media containing said biomolecules and bioparticles to which they have different physico-chemical affinities in order to separate biomolecules and bioparticles and the biomolecules and bioparticles are electrophoretically separated.

As authorized and encouraged under 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.99, applicant hereby cites as a means of complying with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the following patents and/or documents, required copies enclosed, which the Examiner should consider with respect to the above-identified United States Patent Application:

| FOREIGN DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------|---------|--|--|--|--|
| PATENT/DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | | | | |
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OTHER PRIOR ART/ARTICLE

- C.W. Theos et al., *Electroextraction Two-Phase Electrophoresis, Applied Biochemistry and Biotechnology*, Vol. 54, (1995), pp. 143-157.
- S. Devasenathipathy, et al., *Electrokenetic Particle Separation*, 7th International Conference on Miniaturized Chemical Biochemical Analysis Systems, October 5-9, 2003, pp. 845-848.
- T. Herweck, et al., *Visualization of Flow Patterns and Chemical Synthesis in Transparent Micromixers*, Microreaction Technology, Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference on Microreaction Technology, 2001, pp.215-229.
- V. Reddy, et al., *Organic/Aqueous Two Phase Microflow for Biological Sample Preparation*, 7th International Conference on Miniaturized Chemical and Biochemical Analysis Systems, October 5-9, 2003, pp. 437-440.
- C.-L. Liu, et al., *Partitioning of Proteins Using Two-Phase Aqueous Surfactant Systems*, AIChE Journal, April 1995, Vol. 41, No. 4, pp.991-995.
- V.G. Gaikar, et al., *The Effect of Surface Active Additives on the Partitioning of Proteins and Enzymes in Aqueous Two-Phase Systems*, J. Chem. Tech. Biotechnol. , 1996, Vol. 67, pp. 329-332.
- D. Raymond, et al., *Continuous Sample Pretreatment Using a Free-Flow Electrophoresis Device Integrated onto a Silicon Chip*, Analytical Chemistry, 1994, Vol. 66, No. 18, pp. 2858-2864, XP-000478030.
- F. Hachem, et al., *Hydrophobic Partitioning of Proteins in Aqueous Two-Phase Systems*, Enzyme and Microbial Technology, Vol. 19, 1996, pp. 507-517, XP-002316648.

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In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) only the foreign and non-patent documents are required for the express purpose of providing the Patent and Trademark Office with an ample opportunity to evaluate the same and to arrive at an independent assessment of its materiality, if any, with regard to the examination of the application.

An examination of the present application considering the above documents is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

HUDAK, SHUNK & FARINE CO. LPA

Daniel J. Hudak, Jr.

Registration No. 47,669

DJHir/lb 2020 Front Street Suite 307 Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221-3257 (330) 535-2220

Attorney Docket No.: FMW-CP-PCT-US

Sheet 1 of 3

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EXAMINER

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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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